

CLAIMS

1. A method of presenting a printer operator interface, the method comprising the steps of:

5 generating a printer operator display dataset in a processor within a printer, wherein the operator display dataset defines a printer operator interface display and wherein the display dataset conforms to a network protocol;

10 interpreting the printer operator display dataset within the printer; and displaying the operator interface display on a display on the printer.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the network protocol is a HyperText Transfer Protocol.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the operator display dataset comprises data for one or more of a video, an image, a sound file and an animation display.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of generating the operator display dataset is performed in response to a change in an operating parameter within the printer.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein the operating parameter is categorized as at least one of a priority parameter, a paper jam indicator and an out of paper indicator.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of generating is repetitively performed at a time period.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein the time period is adjusted according to at least one of an operating state of the printer and an error state of the printer.

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8. The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
accepting an operator input for the printer through means associated with the
operator interface display; and
controlling a function within the printer in response to the operator input.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the function comprises generating an additional
operator interface display.

10. The method of claim 8, wherein the step of accepting utilizes at least one of a
pointing device, a keyboard, handwriting recognition, and a touchscreen input.

11. A method of presenting an operator interface for a controller, the method
comprising the steps of:

generating an operator display dataset within a computer controller, wherein the
operator display dataset defines an operator interface display and wherein the display
dataset conforms to a network protocol;

interpreting the operator display dataset within the computer controller; and
displaying the operator interface display.

12. A computer printer, comprising:

an operator display dataset generator for generating a display dataset, wherein
the display dataset defines an operator interface display and wherein the display
dataset conforms to a network protocol;

a display dataset interpreter, communicatively coupled to the operator display
dataset generator, for interpreting the operator display dataset, wherein the display
dataset interpreter is contained within the printer; and

an operator interface display, electronically coupled to the display dataset
interpreter, for displaying the operator interface display.

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13. The system of claim 12, wherein the network protocol is a HyperText Transfer Protocol.

14. The system of claim 12, wherein the operator display dataset comprises data for one or more of a video, an image, a sound file, and an animation display.

15. The system of claim 12, wherein operator display dataset generator operates in response to a change in an operating parameter within the printer.

16. The system of claim 15, wherein the operating parameter is categorized as at least one of a priority parameter, a paper jam indicator and an out of paper indicator.

17. The system of claim 12, wherein the operator display dataset generator operates at a time period.

18. The system of claim 17, wherein the time period is adjusted according to at least one of a state of the printer and an error state of the printer.

19. The system of claim 12, further comprising:
an operator input device for accepting an operator input, wherein the operator input is associated with the operator interface display; and
a device controller, communicatively coupled to the operator input, for controlling a function within the printer in response to the operator input.

20. The system of claim 19, wherein the function comprises the generation of an additional operator interface display.

21. The system of claim 19, wherein the operator input comprises at least one of a pointing device, a keyboard, handwriting recognition means, and a touchscreen input.

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22. A computer readable medium including computer instructions for presenting an operator interface for a printer, the computer instructions comprising instructions for:
generating an operator display dataset within a printer, wherein the operator display dataset defines an operator interface display and wherein the display dataset conforms to a network protocol;
interpreting the operator display dataset within the printer; and
displaying the operator interface display.

23. The computer readable medium of claim 22, wherein the network protocol is a HyperText Transfer Protocol.

24. The computer readable medium of claim 22, wherein the operator display dataset comprises data for one or more of a video, a sound file, an image and an animation display.

25. The computer readable medium of claim 22, wherein the instruction for generating the operator display dataset is executed in response to a change in an operating parameter within the printer.

26. The computer readable medium of claim 25, wherein the operating parameter is categorized as at least one of a priority parameter, a paper jam indicator and an out of paper indicator.

27. The computer readable medium of claim 22, wherein the instruction for generating is repetitively executed at a time period.

28. The computer readable medium of claim 27, wherein the time period is adjusted according to at least one of a state of the printer and an error state of the printer.

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29. The computer readable medium of claim 22, further including instructions for: accepting an operator input associated with the operator interface display; and controlling a function within the printer in response to the operator input.

5 30. The computer readable medium of claim 29, wherein the function comprises generating an additional operator interface display.

10 31. The computer readable medium of claim 29, wherein the instruction for accepting accepts input from at least one of a pointing device, a keyboard, handwriting recognition means, and a touchscreen input.

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